THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) State-wise details of searches to detect the tax evasion by manufacturers and dealers of liquor/arrack and assets seized therefrom during last three years are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) Tax and interest in a search case is levied and collected on completion of assessment of undisclosed income and seized assets are also adjusted against tax and interest so levied. The assessment is completed for a block period comprising previous years relevant to six assessment years preceding the previous years in which search is conducted. The assessment is to be completed as per law within two years from the end of the month of search.

Statement

State-wise details of searches to detect the tax evasion by manufacturers and dealers of liquor/arrack and assets seized therefrom during the last three years

(*Rs. in lakhs*)

State	Number of Groups Searched	Details of seizure
Karnataka	17	2076.55
Andhra Pradesh	5	89.35
Kerala	9	99.03
Tamil Nadu	1	Nil
Maharashtra	7	304.28
Bihar	16	136.47
Bhopal	1	43.35
TOTAL :	56	2749.03

Samples of fuel in Delhi

4333. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) had collected samples of fuel in Delhi and North Central Region between December 20, 2001 to January 18, 2002;

(b) if so, what is the failure rate of these samples;

(c) what is the sample failure rate reported by all companies to Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority;

(d) what was the overall content of Benzene in the above samples; and

(e) whether CSE has ever tried to found out the Aromatic compound content in the present petroleum fuel of commercial grade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) CSE report indicates that the failure rate of samples is about 8.3%.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The benzene content in samples taken by CSE was found to be as indicated below:-

* 0.5-0.7% of benzene content in 4% of samples
* 0.8-0.9% of benzene content in 38% of samples
* 1% of benzene content in 24% of samples
* 1-1.5% of benzene content in 26% of samples
* Above 1.5% of benzene content in 8% of samples

(e) It is not clear from their report whether they have tried to find out the aromatic compound content in the present petroleum fuel of commercial grade.

Acquisition of oilfields in Sudan and Oman

4334. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRI YADLAPATI VEKNAT RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC-VIDESH proposed to acquire oilfields in foreign countries like Sudan and Oman; and

(b) if so, whether Sudan is a safe investment place in view of state sponsored terrorism?